past the increase in administered price did not fully cover the escalation in the cost of various inputs like wages, power, fuel, explosives, capital etc. and there was always a time lag between price increase and escalation in the cost of inputs. Low productivity has also been responsible for losses.

Some of the important steps to contain the losses of Coal India Ltd., and increase its efficiency are briefly indicated below: —

(i) Increase in production and productivity, with special emphasis on underground mines.

(ii) Improvement in availability and utilisation of equipment by providing adequate workshop support, improved management of spares and timely rehabilitation of equipment.

(iii) Improved manpower planning including redeployment of surplus workers and restricting the intake of new employees against vacancies caused by natural wastage.

(iv) Economy in the consumption of spares and various other inputs by improving blasting efficiency, power factor and improved inventory control.

(v) Improved monitoring of cost reduction measures.

(vi) Efforts are being made to reduce the total outstanding against major consumers like State Electricity Boards.

(vii) A number of systems improvement and managerial measures have been adopted to improve efficiency of operations.

(viii) Efforts towards reorganisation of existing mines to improve productivity.

Steps taken to increase further the coal production, *inter-alia*, include opening of new mines, modernisation of existing mines, application of new technologies to achieve maximum results and making available required inputs and infrastructural facilities on time to optimise production of coal.

Development of Non-Conventional Energy sources by 2001 A. D.

591. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to rephase the perspective plan prepared for the development of non-conventional energy power by the year 2001 A. D.;

(b) if so, what are the circumstances which led to the rephasing of this perspective plan; and

(c) what are the details of the projection made for power generation through non-conventional energy sources by 2001 A. D. ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c) The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has prepared a paper entitled: "Energy-2001, Perspective Plan -Non-conventional Energy Sources" which envisages potential annual energy generation/saving from new and renewable sources of energy to the extent of 250.17 million tonnes of coal replacement (including 15000 MW of power) by 2000 A. D. provided adequate resources are made available. Since required funds could not be made available during the 7th Plan period, proposals contained in the paper for the 8th Plan period can to taken up provided adequate financial resources are now made available.

Soviet assistance for setting up power projects

592. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU:
SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up some power pro-